

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend pending claim 1 in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A document management system for limiting user access to a registered document, comprising:

a first storage means for registering a document to be accessed; and

a second storage means for registering access controlling information including a specific character string and identification data for specifying said access controlling information,

wherein said identification data is added to said document if said document includes said specific character string, and

access to said document is limited in accordance with contents of said access controlling information, when the access to said document is thereafter requested, if said document contains said added identification data.

2. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 1, wherein said access controlling information further includes information indicating how the access to said document is limited and, when the access to said document is requested, the access is defined by referring to said information indicating how the access is limited.

3. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 1, wherein it is defined whether or not said document includes said specific character string at one of a time when said document is registered, a time when said access controlling information is registered, and a time when the access to said document is requested.

4. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 1, wherein said access controlling information further includes information to specify a person to be permitted to access with limitation.

5. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 1, wherein said access controlling information further includes a valid term during which the access is limited.
6. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 1, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, including ID information for identifying said record, and said ID information is added to the document for relating said access controlling information to the document.
7. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 5, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, including ID information for identifying said record, and said ID information is added to the document for relating said access controlling information to the document.
8. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 4, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, including ID information for identifying said record, and said ID information is added to the document for relating said access controlling information to the document.
9. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 4, wherein said access controlling information further includes a valid term during which the access is limited.
10. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 3, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, including ID information for identifying said record, and said ID information is added to the document for relating said access controlling information to the document.

11. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 3, wherein said access controlling information further includes a valid term during which the access is limited.
12. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 3, wherein said access controlling information further includes information to specify a person to be permitted to access with limitation.
13. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 2, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, including ID information for identifying said record, and said ID information is added to the document for relating said access controlling information to the document.
14. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 2, wherein said access controlling information further includes a valid term during which the access is limited.
15. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 2, wherein said access controlling information further includes information to specify a person to be permitted to access with limitation.
16. (Previously Presented) A document management system according to Claim 2, wherein it is defined whether or not said document includes said specific character string at one of a time when said document is registered, a time when said access controlling information is registered, and a time when the access to said document is requested.